



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/054,185	01/22/2002	Mark A. Lewellen	LEWELLEN.1076	4466
24038	7590	06/15/2005	EXAMINER	
MARTIN & ASSOCIATES, LLC P O BOX 548 CARTHAGE, MO 64836-0548			TRIEU, VAN THANH	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2636	
DATE MAILED: 06/15/2005				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/054,185

Applicant(s)

LEWELLEN, MARK A.

Examiner

Van T Trieu

Art Unit

2632

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 January 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-6,19 and 34-49 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-6,19 and 34-39 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

### Attachment(s)

- ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other:

## ***DETAILED ACTION***

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

1. Claims 1, 5, 6 and 34-39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by **Schofield et al** [US 6,690,268].

Regarding claim 1, the claimed first video monitor (the video screen 86, 96 or 1606 to be viewed by a driver, see Figs. 8, 9 and 16, col. 22, lines 10-45, col. 38, lines 59-60 and col. 39, lines 30-34); and the second video monitor mounted in a location where passengers in the rear of the vehicle may view the second video monitor (the overhead video screen 5924 or 14032 in conjunction to display images from the cameras 14034, 14040 and 14060 located on the roof and rear of the vehicle so that it can be viewed by rear passengers, see Figs. 37, 59A and 59B, col. 14, lines 20-23, col. 53, lines 36-67, col. 54, col. 55 and col. 56, lines 1-57; and the vehicle interface for receiving a plurality of control signals from a vehicle (the user/driver interface accessories 7950, 8050 or 8150 with controls/buttons to be used to actuate or interface with one or more of the various systems in the vehicle, including opening trunk and hood latches, emergency light flashers, a road side assistance system, see Figs. 79-84, col. 5, lines 2-24, col. 30, lines 13-23, col. 77, lines 41-67, col. 78, lines 1-7, col. 106, lines 28-67, cols. 107-110

Art Unit: 2636

and col. 111, lines 1-13); and the plurality of motion sensors mounted around the vehicle that provide input to a vehicle interface (the intrusion detector, the seat occupancy detector, the object/obstacle monitor sensor 118, see Figs. 10 and 60, col. 3, lines 16-18, col. 34, lines 39-67 and col. 35, lines 1-3); and the plurality of video cameras that each provides a video output of area inside and outside of the vehicle (the video cameras 1646, 1656, 1746, 1846, 1856, 2346, 2645, 2846, 2950, 3150, 3170, 3171, 5924, 14034, 14040 and 14060, see Figs. 16-31, 37 and 59B, col. 39, lines 4-67, cols. 40-43, col. 44, lines 1-19 and col. 56, lines 44-57); and the video switching mechanism (the video display buttons 4050, 4060 and 4070, see Figs. 40A, 40B and 44, col. 49, lines 2-25, col. 66, lines 52-60, col. 67, lines 1-20 and col. 68, lines 57-67); and the first monitor source selector (the first video screen 86, 96, 1606, 7952 or 8052 is selected by a user/driver to display captured images output from plurality of selected cameras 1646, 1656, 1746, 1846, 1856, 2346, 2645, 2846, 2950, 3150, 3170 and 3171, see Figs. 56, 79 and 83, col. 2, lines 57-67, col. 3, lines 1-5, col. 25, lines 44-57, col. 77, lines 41-59, col. 107, lines 33-42, col. 109, lines 36-43 and col. 110, lines 7-25); and the second monitor source selector that determines which video output of the plurality of video cameras to simultaneously display on the second video monitor in a different location from and independent of the video output display of the first video monitor, wherein the second video monitor is capable of displaying area surrounding the outside of the vehicle to passengers within the rear of the vehicle (the second video screens 87, 97, 1607 or 5231 mounted at the passenger side, roof-mounting and/or behind the seat is selected to display DVD, TV stations or video games to be only viewed by the

Art Unit: 2636

passengers or vehicle occupants, which is simultaneously, independently and different location from the driver's video screen. The second video screen 14032 is selectively to be viewed by vehicle rear passengers during conversation between the passengers and the driver with his/her own video screen, and also viewing outside of the vehicle captured by the field of view of camera 14060 includes a view of any passengers seated to the rear of seat row 14090, and/or it may also include a view out a rear window of the vehicle in order to capture an image of the area immediately behind the vehicle so as to assist safe backing of the vehicle during a reversing maneuver, see col. 51, lines 54-67, col. 52, lines 1-4, col. 53, lines 36-67, col. 54, col. 55, col. 56, lines 1-57 and col. 77, lines 41-54); and the user interface that allows a user to control the video switching mechanism to specify at least one default video output of the video camera for display on at least one of the monitors when no control signals are active on the vehicle interface (the user selects one of the video switches 4050, 4060, 4070 or touch screen to selected to default the camera video signals and to display the weather information, DVD, TV station or video games when no other vehicle control interface signals are operated or even when the vehicle engine is stop, see col. 51, lines 54-67, col. 52, lines 1-4 and col. 67, lines 1-20).

Regarding claim 5, all the claimed subject matters are cited in respect to claim 1 above, and including the reverse gear aid, see Figs. 10 and 31, col. 33, lines 62-67, col. 34, lines 1-67, col. 35, lines 1-3, col. 43, lines 44-67, col. 44, lines 1-31 and col. 75, lines 25-34.

Art Unit: 2636

Regarding claim 6, all the claimed subject matters are cited in respect to claim 1 above, and including the graphic view indicator, see col. 2, lines 53-56, col. 4, lines 3-8 and col. 35, lines 1-3.

Regarding claim 34, all the claimed subject matters are cited in respect to claim 1 above, and including the superimposed text, see col. 4, lines 3-7, col. 50, lines 60-66 and col. 108, lines 49-60.

Regarding claim 35, all the claimed subject matters are cited in respect to claims 1 above.

Regarding claim 36, all the claimed subject matters are cited in respect to claims 5 and 35 above.

Regarding claim 37, all the claimed subject matters are cited in respect to claims 34 and 36 above.

Regarding claim 38, all the claimed subject matters are cited in respect to claims 1 and 37 above.

Art Unit: 2636

Regarding claim 39, all the claimed subject matters are cited in respect to claim 38 above, and including the remote control user interface (the cellular telephone, portable PDA, portable video device or a portable navigation device, see col. 31, lines 2-6, col. 37, lines 6-15 and col. 108, lines 14-48).

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 3, 4, and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Schofield et al** [US 6,690,268] in view of **Lee** [US 5,680,123].

Regarding claim 3, **Schofield et al** fails to disclose the source selector displays on the video monitor a video output of a video camera 86, 96, 1606, disposed to provide a view of the left side of the vehicle in response to a left turn signal on the vehicle being activated on the vehicle driver interface. However **Schofield et al** teaches that the vehicle security system combined with one of the video cameras 1646, 1656, 1746, 1846, 1856, 2346, 2645, 2846, 2950, 3150, 3170 or 3171 and a video first screen 86, 96, 1606, 1952 or 8052 for displaying and recording of images when the vehicle turn left signal is actuated, see Figs. 8, 9 and 16, col. 22, lines 10-45, col. 38, lines 59-60, col. 39, lines 30-34 and col. 57, lines 46-64. **Lee** suggests that a vehicle monitoring system includes a turn signal control switch 42 being used for selecting display at least one of

Art Unit: 2636

the cameras 12, 14, or 16 to view of the surrounding regions A, B, or C surrounding regions of the vehicle 22. The left camera 12 is selected when the turn signal control switch 42 is put into a down position 43B to represent a left turn. The right camera 16 is selected when the turn signal control switch 42 is put into an up position 43A to represent a right turn, see Figs. 1A and 3-6, abstract, col. 1, lines 58-67, col. 2, lines 1-7, col. 3, lines 25-67. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to implement the right and left turn signals for activating the respected cameras to be view by a driver of **Lee** to the vehicle control and display of **Schofield et al** since the reverse signal is used to activate the rear camera for viewing by the driver whenever the gear is in reverse. Adding turn signals to detect the blind spot alongside a driver's vehicle can be observed by the driver in response to a right or left turn signal, and to increase safety to the traffic vehicle.

Regarding claim 4, all the claimed subject matters are discussed between **Schofield et al** and **Lee** in respect to claims 1 and 3 above, for the right turn signal.

Regarding claim 19, all the claimed subject matters are discussed between **Schofield et al** and **Lee** in respect to claims 1 and 3-6 above.

### ***Response to Arguments***

3. Applicant's arguments filed on 10 January 2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Because,



Art Unit: 2636

Applicant's arguments:

- A) **Schofield et al** do not disclose the second video monitor is not a substantially different location from the first video monitor.
- B) The first and second video monitors in **Schofield et al** are rather intended for the driver to view without excessive head movement or distraction.
- C) **Schofield et al** do not disclose or suggest the display of image outside of the vehicle on the second video monitor, which is in location that passengers in the rear of the vehicle may view.

Response to the arguments:

- A) The second video screen 14032 is mounted on the ceiling of the vehicle for viewed by passengers in the rear seats. The second video screen is clearly separated and located different from the driver's video screen.
- B) The first video screens are preferred viewed by a driver, while the second video screen 14032 mounted in the rear ceiling to be viewed by the passengers.
- C) The second video screen 14032 is conjunction images captured by any one, several or all of cameras 14022, 14032, 14040, 14060, which are viewed by rear passengers in the vehicle. The field of view of camera 14060 includes a view of any passengers seated to the rear of seat row 14090, and/or it may also include a view out a rear window of the vehicle in order to capture an image of the area immediately behind the vehicle so as to assist safe backing of the vehicle during a reversing maneuver.

Art Unit: 2636

***Conclusion***

4. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from examiner should be directed to primary examiner **Van Trieu** whose telephone number is (571) 272-2972. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri from 7:00 AM to 3:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mr. **Jeffery Hofsass** can be reached on (571) 272-2981.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Van Trieu', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

**Van Trieu**  
**Primary Examiner**  
**Date: 6/10/05**